

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.
WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1862.

THE TELEGRAPHIC COLUMN is naturally the first to which the reader of a newspaper turns. Even the recondite editorial periods of the "Thunder" if itself would have little chance of a perusal before the rather abrupt and not always accurate announcements of the telegraph to-day had not been ide, and its news is generally interesting. The sailing of an expedition yesterday from Hampton Roads is portentous of reinforcements designed to operate against Savannah, hardly to reinforce Burnside.

M. deBeian is here, but we have not had the pleasure of seeing him. We are pleased to learn that he is well. He was told North that it would be folly for him to try to get to Wilmington. That before he could get as far as Weldon, Burnside would have everything.

The news from the North must be taken for what it is worth. There is something in it. Evidently the thing has approached its crisis.

A rumor reached here yesterday, both on the streets and through the telegraph, that the Burnside fleet had left Hatteras. We can find as yet no confirmation of it. It appears to have been founded upon some information purporting to have been received through Norfolk. The Norfolk Daily Book of yesterday, says that a letter was received in that city on Saturday, from Elizabeth City, in which it was stated that on Friday, one of the steamers left Roanoke Island for the purpose of reconnoitering, and on her return, reported that the whole Burnside fleet had left Hatteras. Now, on the face of it, this statement requires correction. Steamers could not have left Roanoke Island on Friday, made a reconnaissance, returned and reported— their report be sent to Elizabeth City, and a letter predicated upon that report be written at Elizabeth City and received in Norfolk on Saturday. We don't think the thing is physically possible, considering all the circumstances and means of communication. To say the very least, it is more than doubtful.

The Goldsboro Tribune of yesterday, the 4th inst., has nothing whatever in addition to what is already being given the public. The Newbern Progress of the 4th, which ought to bring, and no doubt does bring later news than doubtful letters from Elizabeth City via Norfolk, has the following:—

FROM HATTERAS.—We promised yesterday morning, to give some further reliable news from Hatteras and the fleet in this issue, and here it is: A reliable gentleman arrived here by the A. & N. C. train from Beaufort yesterday morning, who was within a few miles of the enemy at Hatteras on Sunday morning with a glass in hand, and reports that 10 vessels are this side the swash, and others gradually moving over to join them. This intelligence comes not from a single source, but from several reliable sources, and we may say it is credited in official circles, and we unhesitatingly deem it reliable, knowing the source whence it comes. The courier contained other important facts, of such a character, however, that it would not do for us to say to know them, so we must wait patiently, further and more satisfactory developments.

It is due to the Daily Book, however, to say that it does not touch for the accuracy of the information said to have been received by letter from Elizabeth City.— It merely thinks it may be correct.

If Burnside has left Hatteras, it is fair to say that no information to that effect has reached us. That he may leave it, is probable, but even that is mere speculation.—Daily Journal, 5th inst.

Dreadful Accident.

Last evening about 8 1/2 o'clock, whilst a crank car engaged in repairing the bridge, &c. They were natives of Switzerland, but had been residents here for some time, and were very highly spoken of. At the time of the accident they were coming from the Brunswick river bridge, where they had been at work, as also the negroes. Mr. Keith was here on a visit, but on yesterday, we believe, went out to see Messrs. DeC. and R.

Mr. Keith was a young man, a native of Timmons-ville, S. C., where his parents reside. He had been Captain of a Company in Virginia, but on account of ill health had resigned. His body was sent home this morning.

The negroes were the property of Mrs. M. E. Durant, of South Carolina.

The occurrence appears to have been purely an accident, resulting from the bolt of those on the crank car that no train would be moving at that time, and indeed, the train with which they came in contact was simply backing on the track, even that being somewhat unusual at the time of night when the accident occurred.

Daily Journal, 5th inst.

AN ORDINANCE has been passed in the State Convention by Walter F. Leak, Esq., from the Committee to which was referred the memorial from the officers commanding the 31st regiment of North Carolina troops, asking that some steps may be inaugurated towards the suppression, or the material abatement, of the distillation of the grain of the country.

The ordinance is prefaced by a report setting forth the fact that in the opinion of the Committee some action is necessary to prevent the impending scarcity of grain. The ordinance provides that a duty of fifty cents a bushel be imposed upon each and every bushel of grain distilled into spirits liquor. The number of bushels of grain distilled into liquor to be given in by the distiller at the time he lists his property. This tax to be collected by the Sheriffs of the different counties.

The Report and Ordinance will be found in another column.

The Burnside expedition probably consisted in it unmounted state of about fifteen thousand troops, together with the naval forces under Commodore Goldsboro'. It is probable that they have succeeded in getting over two-thirds of these inside, but from the difficulty of getting the heavier vessels over the bar and swash, with the necessity of lighting for that purpose, it is evident that they are not and cannot be, for some time, ready for any forward movement. In fact, they have been landing on Hatteras beach, and there must stay to refit, or return to Hampton Roads or Annapolis for that purpose. Even in its shattered condition, the remains of the expedition is a formidable ruin, but no longer a dangerous antagonist, nor likely to be so for some time.

The Asheville, N. C., News of the 30th ult., says that an altercation occurred at that place on the evening of Thursday the 23d, between James Skelton and John W. Wilson. Skelton was a member of Captain Gaines company, Coleman's battalion. Wilson had been a member of the first regiment N. C. Volunteers. Skelton fired first at Wilson with a double-barreled shot gun, five or six of the shot taking effect on Wilson's person, who promptly returned the fire with a musket, the ball striking Skelton on the side of the abdomen, and passing entirely through him and striking the Court House wall, some forty yards off. Skelton died about midnight. Wilson does not appear to have been much injured.

Interesting Document.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Hon. George Davis for an official pamphlet of 115 8vo. pages, containing "Official reports of General Johnston and Beauregard of the Battle of Manassas, July 21st, 1861. Also, Official Reports of the Battle of 10th Sept., Brig. General Floyd, commanding; Engagement at Oak Hill, Mo., Brig. Gen. Ben. McCulloch, commanding; Engagement at Lewisville, Sept. 11th, Col. J. E. B. Stuart, commanding; Engagement on Greenbrier River, Oct. 31, Brig. Gen. H. R. Jackson, commanding; Engagement at Santa Rosa Island, Oct. 8th Maj. General Braxton Bragg, commanding; Engagement at Leesburg, Oct. 21st, and 22d, Brig. Gen. N. G. Evans, commanding; Bombardment of Forts Walker and Beauregard, (Port Royal) Nov. 7th, Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton, commanding; Engagement at Pickett, Ky., Col. John S. Williams, commanding; Battle in Alleghany Mountains, Dec. 13th, Col. Edward Johnson, commanding." Richmond: Tyler, Wise, Allege and Smith, Pns., 1862.

These reports have their value seriously impaired by inaccuracies and discrepancies, which may or may not be the fault of the printer, the fight at Pickett near Prestonburg, Kentucky, under Col. Williams, being put in Missouri in the title page, the name of Gen. Johnston being spelled two ways, the report of the battle of Manassas made by General Johnston stating that about five thousand muskets were captured on the field or in the pursuit, while the account of the same battle by General Beauregard says there was over five hundred muskets! These Generals appear to have counted their figures and could not have made so wholly discrepant statements.

IF, INSTEAD of long sessions, repealing laws that a legitimate, constitutionally representative body had made, the Convention hereafter to be known, we suppose like a celebrated English Parliament by the prefix of "Long" had devoted itself to things within the purview of its real powers, at a time like this, it would have passed an ordinance not so very different from that introduced by Judge Biggs for the prevention of sedition, rather than raised or joined in a dismal universal howl over its needlessness and its impropriety. Now, we don't think it was needless, and we don't think it would do any harm now. We would raise no alarm, nor use any language likely to abate the confidence of the people of all parts of the State in each other. We believe that the great heart of the State is as true as steel, and the great body of her people devoted heart and soul to the liberties for which the South is now contending. We have asserted this all along, and we reassert it, but do not therefore either say or believe that there are not some disaffected men—traitors, Tories, Lincolinites, and that there are more numerous in some parts of the State than in others. There are enough of these to attract attention and to demand punishment.—It is a manifest sensibility, rarely, that would refuse to provide safeguards for the public weal adequate to the purpose of its preservation. Members of the Convention must know that there are cases that require action—crimes that merit punishment—evil that call for a remedy. If they don't they ought to. If they prefer to do what is not their business, while they shrink from the responsibility of what is, the sooner they go home the better. Why should not the Convention adjourn next Monday?

ON A recent visit to the camp of the 28th Regiment, we were pleased to see that a complete town of neat wooden tenements has taken the place of the canvas village of the latter part of Summer and Fall, affording convenient and comfortable winter quarters with chimneys, for the men, houses for the stores and other purposes.

We found nearly all finished with the exception of some of the officer's quarters. Col. Lane's among the number, these being left to the last, as, being less crowded, the necessity was not so pressing. We were gratified to learn that a decided improvement in the health of the Regiment has been the result of this improved arrangement.

The Charleston Courier.

Comes to us this morning clothed in mourning for the death of its senior Editor and Proprietor, A. S. Willington, Esq., which took place at a quarter of two o'clock on Sunday morning, Feb. 23.

Mr. Willington would have been 81 years of age had he lived until the 12th March next. He was born in the State of Massachusetts, on the 12th March, 1781, but had resided in Charleston, S. C., since Nov. 1802, and had been connected with the Courier since the publication of the first number, on the 10th Jan. 1803, a period of some fifty-nine years.

As the result of his long and persevering labors, he realized an independent fortune and was highly esteemed and respected in the community where he had so long resided.—Daily Journal, 4th inst.

THE Raleigh Standard asks if the increased supply of salt has produced a corresponding reduction in price. We would reply that we believe such is beginning to be the case. Salt, we know, is getting to be sold for less than four dollars.

Another contemporary—the Asheville News, we think, asks about what Dr. Worth is doing. Can't say positively. Know he has secured sites, and has been fitting up works, but do not know certainly whether he has made any salt. We know where one of the sites is but as that knowledge coming to be shared by the enemy, might invite an attack, we forbear stating the locality, further than to say that it is generally supposed to be a good one.

A GENTLEMAN of the New England States once asserted the great and heart-rendering beauty of the Yankee girls, and undertook to account for it by referring to the fact that, in the days of witch-burning, all the old and ugly females had been killed off. In more modern days perhaps, people might be inclined to think that there was more witchery about the young and handsome ones. The whole matter is left open for consideration.

We take it that the Lincoln government is doing the same service for the merchant marine of the North, that the followers of Cotton Mather did for the female population of the New England States. They are gathering up all the old and ugly ones and having them put to a watery death. The private citizens are rapidly getting off the old, the halt, the lame, the blind, the feeble and the ill-looking in the way of water-craft, so that shortly there will not be an old vessel left in private hands in all the domains of Abraham the First.

We are led to these remarks as well as the reflections that produced them, by noticing the announcement that "The Steamer Robert Morris was sunk at Fort Monroe on the night of the 26th January, when about to sail for the South." Now, the Robert Morris, an old Cape May packet owned by the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad Company, had been used to run from the former city to New Castle, Del., in connection with the New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad, and sometimes as a packet to Cape May. Before 1840 she was an old boat, and was not, we think, a new one in 1830. This shows something of the mode in which the Lincoln war is made to play into the hands of parties who put off upon the Lincoln government all their old, their very old craft, at the price of new ones. Well indeed might Burnside say that the contractors had ruined him.

SINGLE copies of the WILMINGTON DAILY JOURNAL may be had every day, as soon as issued, at WYTHE'S, at NEW BOOK STORE, MARKET STREET. Also at KELLEY'S BOOK STORE, and at this office.

THE DAILY JOURNAL can be had by the volunteers in camp at 50 cents per month.

The Convention.—When WILL it Adjourn?

This tendency of power to steal from the many to the few,—the indisposition of those who have once enjoyed its exercise to relax the grasp by which they hold it,—the emptiness of mere professions when contrasted with actual and present facts, these are things that all experience has proved, and from their consideration all sane persons ought to be able to draw the lesson that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, and that all men deserving free liberty ought to cheerfully pay this price. Permit us to say that we think now is a time when this vigilance is peculiarly demanded of the people of North Carolina; it is a time when they should watch closely and scrutinize well the acts of their servants; when they should enquire whether, in the case of their delegates in Convention, power is not, indeed, stealing from the many to the few; whether there is not manifested a tenacious adherence to power, which indicates a disposition not only to prolong its duration, but to extend its limits indefinitely; whether there is not much profession with, we will not say little performance, but with too much performance that will not be found to accord with such profession. When this enquiry is fairly made, we feel assured that the conclusion of the people will be that the Convention has already prolonged its existence and extended its powers too far, and that to satisfy the reasonable demand, and allay the well-grounded apprehensions of the public, it ought at once to address itself to such, and only such business as comes necessarily before it,—finish it up promptly and adjourn this day week at furthest.

Do we not see in every recent act of this body evidence of the tendency of power to steal from the many to the few? Do we not know that while the Declaration of Rights in its 4th section lays down the axiom dear to every lover of free constitutional government, "that the legislative, executive and supreme judicial powers of government, ought to be forever separate and distinct from each other," the Convention, in practice, assumes and acts upon the assumption, to which one of its leading members has given expression, namely, that the people have clothed the Convention with supreme legislative, executive and judicial power, and it by no means breaks the force of this assumption to add, as does the Standard, "which power must be exercised for the people and subject to their will," since, as the Convention claims to absorb and embody all the powers of the State, there is no mode of calling it to account—no tribunal to which to appeal. Besides such an assumption means nothing more than a mere profession without any guarantee or safeguard should it not be made good.—As for professions, we think Mr. Lincoln promised to suspend the *habeas corpus*—incarcerate men, women and children, make war, and, in fact exercise supreme legislative, executive and judicial power, for the people and subject to their will!

Will anybody seriously assert that the people, in calling together this Convention, or in voting for its members, intended to clothe it with powers subversive of one of the most vital principles of the Declaration of Rights? One of the most vital principles of all free governments? Did the people intend that the Convention should exercise or even assert such powers, no matter under what excuse?

We are not in favour of hasty action. We trust no body is, but it is not evident that a large influence in the Convention is in favor of turning that body into a permanent institution, and not a temporary incident of the change in our national relations; an incident which the necessity of the case called into existence and which ought to have ceased with that necessity? Now, inasmuch as a Convention called for the purpose, brought the State into the old Union, it was deemed that such a body only could properly bring her out and having done so, connect her with the Confederate States, and make such changes in the organic law as this change in the external relations of the State might absolutely require to give force and effect to such external change. There was no reasonable place of necessity for any prolonged session of the Convention, nor for extended exercise of power beyond the limits above indicated.—There was no necessity for the Convention remaining or reassembling for the purpose of ordinary legislation, for the legislative authority of the State was already vested by the Constitution in "two distinct branches,"—and to this fact of there being two branches we all have reason again to refer. There was already an executive—no necessity for executive session. There was already a judiciary. Surely the prolonged bid the tenacious grasp of power by the Convention is not wholly without significance, combined with the extended and practically unlimited sweep which it asserts and not unfrequently exercises.

We said we would have reason again to refer to the fact of the constitution having vested the legislative authority in two distinct branches, both dependent on the people, to wit: a senate and house of commons.—Let us add that these branches are not only distinct but they are different. The one represents taxation—the other federal numbers—(perhaps it would be more correct to say *Confederate numbers*)—In the Senate the East has a slight preponderance, in the House of Commons the West has. Thus they form mutual checks and balances. Thus neither can oppress the other.

Now what is the state of things in the Convention? Why, in that body there is no such check; but one basis is represented there—the numerical basis of the House of Commons. The taxation basis of the Senate is without a place. The balance between the East and West, the result of a solemn compromise, is deliberately ignored, and money is appropriated for railroad and other purposes, and revenue bills changed by a body representing but half the legislative basis of the State, and ignoring the constitutional protection extended by such basis to the people of one whole section.

We do not charge upon the members of the Convention, individually, this or that thing. We take it that they are as good as their fellow citizens generally, and that they don't suppose they are much better; and it will be useless for anybody to claim for them any peculiar infallibility or any superhuman virtue. People think they ought to have adjourned long ago. They see that the Convention is not above yielding to the temptations of power and the dreams of ambition. This much has already been shown. If the same tendency of things continues much longer, the judgement of the people will be more distinctly pronounced. They will demand that the legislative, executive and supreme judicial powers of government be, as they ought to be, forever separate and distinct. They will demand that the compromises of 1835 be observed, and the legislative authority be exercised by two distinct branches, representing the mixed basis by which the power of the two sections is balanced and their respective rights guarded, and not by a single body, representing but one half of the basis, but one half of the interests of the State.

And in conclusion, we ask of the really conservative members of the Convention,—we appeal to the true conservative feeling of all, and also to the really conservative papers of the State to cry aloud and spare not. Stop this career of indefinite action, and bring things back to their true bearings. Why can not the Convention adjourn this day week?

THERE APPEARS to be very little doubt but that things in Europe are approaching some point, at which some action will be resolved upon, with reference to affairs in this country. The stone blockade, by which it is sought to ruin the permanent harbors of the South, is very justly denounced, and will most probably be seized upon as an excuse for intervention to the extent of breaking up the whole blockade.

We feel almost certain that the disrespectful reference to Messrs. Mason and Slidell, attributed by the New York Herald to the London Times, were never made by the Times. Such tricks are not unusual with the Herald.

We have been kindly shown a private letter from a citizen of Savannah to a friend in Wilmington giving a full and minute account of matters and things there. We will endeavor to take from it such details in regard to localities, recently occupied by the Lincoln garrisons, as will throw light on the late movements in that neighborhood, without giving any possible information to the enemy.

Fort Pulaski, on Cockspur Island, at the mouth of the Savannah river is a strong fortified work, which it is believed the enemy can neither pass, take nor starve out. All large vessels must come under its guns.

The whole space between the city and the ocean is cut up and intersected by rivers, creeks, cuts and openings. How many of these have been obstructed and how, is not for us to say.

Wall's Cut is an opening from Port Royal into the Savannah river with some 7 or 8 feet depth at high water. This cut opens into the Savannah river about six miles above Fort Pulaski, and of course out of the range of its guns. Into this cut the enemy's light gun-boats had come and were trying to force their way into the Savannah river, but had not succeeded at the latest dates.

On the Georgia side of the river the Lincolns have availed themselves of two openings known as Wilmington Creek and Freshwater's Cut, connecting Warsaw Sound with Augustine creek or river, and from thence with Savannah River. These two openings run for some distance through the marsh, quite near to the main river, say within half a mile, and at this point opposite Wall's Cut and about two miles from it. It was between the vessels in the cuts on both sides of the Savannah river that Taittall's fleet had to pass on their way to Fort Pulaski on Tuesday last week, and received a heavy fire from the vessels on both sides.

Of the nature of the precautions taken to prevent the enemy's vessels getting from these cuts into the main river, we cannot speak. By the time they get in, they will find means of resistance which their small craft will not be able to overcome.

"Skidaway" is a large island lying parallel with the main—is about 12 miles from the city, and is connected with the mainland by bridges. This point attracts much attention recently, as there is a heavy draft of water there, and from eight to twenty vessels, some armed, and some large steamers filled with troops, have been there for the last ten days or two weeks. This is regarded as a point where the enemy might attempt a landing, with the view of trying to reach the city by land. Attempting is not always doing.

The writer adds:—"There is no alarm felt here. The people are calm and confident."

Of course the number of our guns and where mounted—of our troops and where stationed, would be improper to state, farther than to say that they appear to justify the calmness and confidence above expressed.

For the Journal.

Messrs. Editors.—Having finished my breakfast and concluded a pipe of tobacco, and being at leisure for the next six hours, I have betwined myself of the pleasure of penning you with the reading of a small epistle from this place.

To let you know where we are and what we are doing, I will just remark that our camp is a little East of the confluence of the Yadkin and Big Pee Dee Rivers. We have just entered our new winter quarters. Our Regiment, the 30th N. C. V., is in good health—generally gay and contented, well pleased with our lot, and full of enthusiasm for the cause. Our officers are full of confidence, and our men are full of courage. We are now waiting for the enemy to come, and we are ready to meet them on any terms.

There is one distinction the government has made between officers and privates which we do not exactly like, and for which we ask redress, viz: the officers are allowed to wear two coats, two brass buttons, and their coats in front and four in rear, and we privates, "poor devils," are only allowed to wear six in front. Now it is a well known fact, that in order to be popular among the women, a man must be a preacher, a good fiddler, or wear brass buttons, and the more brass, the better he suits. Now we insist that the government should abolish any distinction giving one class of men a preference over others, and should leave them on an equal footing, to use their talents and winning ways like the afore said preachers and fiddlers are required to do, to rise or fall in the estimation of the fair ones, upon their merits alone.

Another thing I might mention that would add a little to our enjoyments up here. We all have a very great admiration for Jeff. Davis, and it would not diminish our respect for him in the least, if the other privates were allowed to wear a Jeff Davis badge, or their coats in front and four in rear, and we privates, "poor devils," are only allowed to wear six in front. Now it is a well known fact, that in order to be popular among the women, a man must be a preacher, a good fiddler, or wear brass buttons, and the more brass, the better he suits. Now we insist that the government should abolish any distinction giving one class of men a preference over others, and should leave them on an equal footing, to use their talents and winning ways like the afore said preachers and fiddlers are required to do, to rise or fall in the estimation of the fair ones, upon their merits alone.

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with that we will be satisfied. Give us the good reason, or the free ticket. Very truly yours, &c.

Camp Wyatt, N. C., Jan. 23d, 1862.

We must protest against the apparent confusion of ideas shown by our friend "Miles," in reference to routes and localities, also to his irreverently mixing up incongruous professions in his third paragraph. As to his proposition in the second, we have something worse than a protest—we have an "insultation,"—mind we don't say it, but it is hinted that he is a—*varied man!* This in badinage of course, for our correspondent is one of the cleverest gentlemen in or out of the service. We have to add a few words in seriousness with regard to the closing paragraph, for our correspondent is a sensible as well as a clever man.

The soldier in the service of his country should be as well fed, clothed, lodged, and attended in sickness as the citizen can afford, and he should also have the opportunity of religious instruction and of participating in devotional exercises. That he should be enabled, as far as consistent with the good of the service and the means of the country to visit his family, is also admitted by all. But does the farmer give his produce for nothing to the Commissary, or does the manufacturer or merchant give his goods for nothing, or is the doctor required to give his services for nothing, or the druggist to give his drugs, or the preacher his preaching? Why then should the railroad alone be required to work for nothing as indicated by our correspondent? Surely, charging half price can hardly be called extortion, when many people take credit to themselves for not charging over three prices. That the case suggested by "Miles" is a hard one—one demanding attention we admit, but surely grievances are not to be remedied by throwing the whole burden of their remedy on any particular class or interest, which would be the case in the instance under consideration, were railroads required to give free tickets—to work for nothing, while others demand and receive exorbitant rates for everything they sell to, or do for the government. Among these last, however, is not the soldier, and some arrangement should be made whereby he and his family may enjoy the full happiness of his visits and the full benefit of his pay, without deduction or diminution.

For the Journal.

Will the Wilmington or State Journal or Standard, or some other competent person, state the object of the late draft of one-third of the Militia from thirty of the Eastern counties? They will confer a favor, for there is much confusion among the people in some localities. If this special levy is to be the means of drafting men to compel them to volunteer in these particular counties by joining other companies already formed, then it is regarded, and very justly, an imputation upon the patriotism of the people of these thirty counties. For why draft men from these particular counties for the war or compel them to volunteer in other companies already in the service, but to be the impression in some particular localities: that if one-third of the militia from these thirty counties will join other companies already formed, it will satisfy the call of the Governor and relieve the draft. If that be the object of the draft it does gross injustice to the patriotic people of these Eastern counties. Have they not done their duty in this crisis? Do they lack one-third of their militia in not doing it? If they do lack that much then is the impression right and no injustice done; but they lack nothing. These counties will compare favorably with any other thirty counties in the State. For instance, take New Hanover, Duplin, Sampson, Wayne and Onslow, these counties, and I speak of them because I happen to know more about them, have done so well in their duty, they have been so full of men, and furnished both men and arms for carrying on the war. Onslow is the smallest, and what has she done? She has three full companies in Virginia—one in the 35th Regiment near Newbern, and a Dragon company at Swansboro', of over one hundred men. Counting in those at the battery at Swansboro' and the Ports and in other companies, well well well to six hundred men, with a very high proportion between eight and nine hundred. Then she has provided amply for the families rendered needy by the absence of their husbands or sons in the service of their country; and what may be said of Onslow can be said, I have no doubt, of these other counties drafted. But I take it that the Governor did not mean to say by this levy, that these counties had not done their duty, but to call on them to draft men or to compel them to volunteer for other companies already formed; he meant for the Colonels to call for one-third of the Militia as volunteers, or draft that number and organize them into companies and keep them in the counties to be ready to repel invasion, in order to relieve the necessity of calling out the entire Militia—that when there was an invasion to be repelled, the companies formed of the one-third of the Militia, whether volunteers or drafted. In other words, this special levy was made to relieve the necessity of calling out the entire Militia from the Eastern counties to repel invasion. It will be too great a strain upon these counties to furnish other companies already in the service with one-third more of the Militia.

INQUIRER.

So far as we are able to form an opinion upon this subject it coincides with that expressed by "Inquirer." When, pending a former threatened invasion of our coast, the whole militia of several counties was called out, that call was so thoroughly responded to, that some districts in nearly every county in this section were left bare of every man fit to bear arms, whether legally subject or not. So much so that the commanding General had to detail men to go home for local protection. It has been our opinion, that, in order to avoid a recurrence of this state of things, it was resolved to call out at any one time, on the first call at least, only one-third of the militia of any county, district by district, and the draft was made to ascertain definitely which portion should be called out, and which should be required to stay at home. We think that about every company in New Hanover would have volunteered *en masse*, but that was not the idea. It was to prevent this *levy en masse* that the distinctive selection of one-third was made, this third when called into service to stand precisely in the same position that the whole would have done, had the whole, as militia, been called into the service of the State. Under any other view of the case, this draft would work a serious injustice and cast a grave imputation upon the people of the thirty counties to which it applies.

Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of Co. B, 3d Regiment N. C. S. T., E. Williams was called to the chair, and Sergt. J. P. Oates was requested to act as Secretary. On motion of A. S. Gargus, a committee of five were appointed, namely, B. D. Marshall, J. E. Hobbs, N. S. Ennett, D. B. Jarvis and J. R. Williams; after a short deliberation the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That whereas it hath pleased God to take from our midst our beloved brother in arms, Corporal L. H. Sidbury, we can but submit to the decree of an All-wise Providence, whose ways are past finding out, and who doeth all things wisely.

Resolved, That in losing our fellow-soldier, we lose one who gained the esteem of all by his amiable and unexceptionable qualities, and who justly merited the soldier's name. Resolved, That in mourning his loss, we feel a deep feeling of pain, we sincerely sympathize with him, and were it possible, would bid him to his heart's home.

Resolved, That we were the usual badge of mourning thirty days, and send a copy of this to his bereaved father, also one to the Wilmington Journal, with a request that it publish the same.

J. P. OATES, Sec'y.

Tribute of Respect.

At a meeting of Company (B), 3d Regiment N. C. S. T., for the purpose of drafting resolutions relative to the death of Wm. King, a member of said Company, Sergt. J. P. Oates was called to the chair, and Corporal L. H. Sidbury was requested to act as Secretary. On motion of A. S. Gargus, a committee of five were appointed, namely, J. R. Gorton, R. Jarvis, R. W. Yopp, R. Aman and J. B. Williams; after a short deliberation the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That whereas it hath pleased God to take away from our midst our beloved brother in arms, Wm. King, we can but submit to the decree of an All-wise Providence, whose ways are past finding out, and who doeth all things wisely.

Chatham Railroad Ordinance.

An ordinance in addition to, and amendment of, an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, "An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company," and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861.

Be it ordained by the delegates of the people of North Carolina, in General Assembly convened, that section first of the Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, "An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company," be amended by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles."

Be it further ordained, That the provision in section four of said Act of the General Assembly, be stricken out.

Be it further ordained, That an act of the General Assembly, ratified on the twenty-third day of February, one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-one, entitled, "An Act to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," be amended by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad Company,' and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 23d day of February, 1861," by inserting after the words "from the Chatham County, in the county of Chatham, and sixty-one, and sixty-two, to connect with the North Carolina Railroad, at Raleigh, or some point west of Raleigh, not exceeding twelve miles," the following: "and to amend an Act of the General Assembly, ratified the 15th day of February, 1861, entitled, 'An Act to incorporate the Chatham Railroad

